

Borough of Gravesend



1937

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1937.

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

THE MAYOR (Councillor A. W. HOWCROFT, J.P.)

Alderman J. A. AXCELL (*Chairman*)

Alderman MORRIS (*Vice-Chairman*)

Alderman	HUGGINS, J.P.	Councillor	Dr. HAGARD
,,	HARRINGTON, J.P.	,,	Mrs. COLE, J.P.
,,	SIMMONDS	,,	JENNINGS
Councillor	HODGE, J.P.	,,	ROBERTSON
,,	ROBSON	,,	DAVIDSON
,,	WOODWARD	,,	FLETCHER
	Councillor	McKENZIE, J.P.	

STAFF.

Clerks :

Mr. S. V. TONGE

Mr. A. H. BAKER

Mr. D. V. PROTHERO

Miss G. PRETTY

Health Visitors :

Miss S. A. CROSS, S.R.N., S.C.M.

* Miss A. DIXON, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss C. M. BOVINGTON, S.R.N., S.C.M.

District Sanitary Inspectors :

† Mr. J. F. CREIGHTON, Cert. S.I.B.

† Mr. W. A. COLLINS, Cert. S.I.B.

Mr. O. B. DODDS, Cert. S.I.B.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act

† Mr. J. E. BAKER, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

Medical Officer of Health :

C. D. OUTRED, D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S.(ENG.)

* Part time Health Visitor and School Nurse.

† Also holds Meat and Food Inspector Certificate.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
GRAVESEND.

1st June, 1938.

**The Worshipful The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Gravesend.**

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my 27th Annual Report on the health of the Borough in respect of the year 1937.

The Report has been compiled on the lines recommended by the Ministry of Health and statistical tables will be found following the written matter at the end of the report.

There is little variation in the Birth, Death and other rates, which have been calculated on the estimated population given by the Registrar General. While there is a slight decrease in the Birth Rate, the Death Rate shows an increase on the rate for the previous year.

The Infant Mortality rate has risen after the decrease of the past two years, but compares favourably with that for the rest of England.

I desire to express my thanks to Dr. Roper, the Tuberculosis Officer, for the assistance he has rendered to my Department during the year and to Dr. Nicol and Miss Hammond for supplying some of the particulars included in this report.

I should like to express my thanks and indebtedness to the Chairman, Alderman Axccl, and the Members of the Health Committee for their sympathetic consideration of the various reports submitted to them during the year.

In conclusion, I also desire to record the loyal co-operation and support of my Senior Inspector, Mr. Baker, and the whole of my Staff.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. D. OUTRED,
Medical Officer of Health.



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Annual Report

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR, 1937.

Population : Census 1921, 31,137 ; 1931, 35,400.

„ Estimated to mid-year 1937—By Register General, 39,460

	1935.	1936.	1937.
Area of the Borough in acres (land and inland water)	4,619	4,169	4,619
Density of Population, persons per acre	8.2	8.5	8.5
Marriages, No. 359 Marriage Rate per 1,000 population	8.96	9.6	9.09
Births, No. 599 (net) Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.4	15.68	15.17
Deaths, No. 466 (net) Death Rate per 1,000 population	10.0	11.18	11.55
Infantile Deaths, No. 32 Rate per 1,000 Live Births	45.9	37.2	53.4
Death Rate from :—			
Tuberculosis (all forms) per 1,000 population .....	.55	.55	.83
Cancer per 1,000 population	1.67	1.70	1.59
Heart Disease (including Aneurysm and other circulatory diseases) per 1,000 population	2.72	2.05	2.58
Violence (including suicide) per 1,000 population .....	.49	.50	.60
Respiratory Diseases (including Pneumonia) per 1,000 population	1.2	1.0	1.5
Infantile Diarrhoea (under 2 years) per 1,000 population	1.7	8.1	11.0
Puerperal Sepsis, per 1,000 Live Births	3.4	1.62	3.3
Other Puerperal Causes, per 1,000 Live Births	5.1	1.62	1.66

THE AREA OF THE BOROUGH.

	Land.	Inland Water.	Tidal Water	Foreshore.	Total Acres.
Gravesend	700	0	70	7	77
Milton	859	6	152	27	1,054
Denton and Chalk	2,429	12	337	10	2,788
	3,998	18	559	44	4,619

POPULATION OF THE BOROUGH.

Census :	1901	.....	27,196		1911	.....	28,115
	1921	.....	31,137		1931	.....	35,400

The extension of the Borough Boundary became effective as from April 1st, 1935 and includes the Parishes of Denton, Chalk and part of the Parishes of Northfleet, Cobham and Ifield.

The estimated population to mid-year 1937, as given by the Registrar General is 39,460, and the Birth, Death and other rates have been calculated on this figure.

The probability is that the next census will reveal a substantial increase in the population as many houses are still being erected in the extended boundary by speculative builders.

RATEABLE AND ASSESSABLE VALUE.

Gross Value (1st October, 1937)	.....	.....	£394,859
Rateable Value	.....	.....	£331,512
Yield of 1d. Rate	.....	.....	£1,292
Rates (to 31st March, 1938)	.....	.....	11/8d. in the £.

MARRIAGES.

The number of marriages registered in the Borough during the year was 359 ; 231 were solemnised in churches and chapels and 128 in register office.

This gives a marriage rate of 9.09 per 1,000 population as compared with 9.6 for the previous year.

The number and rate for the last five years was as follows :—

		1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Rate per 1,000 population	...	8.8	9.60	8.96	9.6	9.09
Number of Marriages	...	310	337	342	378	359

BIRTHS.

The total number of live births registered of residents in the District was 599 (296 males and 303 females) giving a Birth Rate of 15.17 per 1,000 of the present population as estimated by the Registrar General. This figure compares with a rate of 15.68 for the year 1936.

Twenty live births were registered as illegitimate, and 28 still births were also registered.

One hundred and thirty-six births were transferred to other Districts and 41 were transferred "in."

Births notified under the Notifications of Births Act were as follows :—606 live births and 31 still births, total 637. These were attended by General Practitioners in 379 instances, and by midwives 258. There were 26 live or still births which occurred in the District which were not notified.

The excess of births over deaths, showing a natural increase of population for the year 1937, was 133.

The Birth Rate for the past 10 years is shown hereunder for comparison.

1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
18.3	18.8	19.7	18.6	16.8	16.7	15.6	15.4	15.6	15.1

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

Of the total births registered (599) 20 were illegitimate, 10 males and 10 females, giving a rate of 3.37 per cent. Only one death of an illegitimate infant was registered under one year of age. No still births were registered as illegitimate.

The illegitimate rate compares with 4.05 for the previous year, the comparative rates for the past 10 years being as follows :—

1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
3.2	3.7	2.1	4.2	2.8	3.5	4.2	2.8	4.05	3.37

DEATHS.

Four hundred and sixty-six deaths were registered during the year (251 males, 215 females), giving a Death Rate of 11.55 per 1,000 population, which compares with 11.9 for the “ Smaller Towns ” of England and Wales.

Eighty deaths of residents were transferred “ in ” from other Districts and 102 were transferred “ out.”

The chief certified causes of death were as follows :—Heart Disease, 79 ; Cancer, 63 ; Cerebral Haemorrhage, 40 ; All Forms of Tuberculosis, 33 ; Bronchitis, 28 ; Senile Decay, 26 ; Pneumonia, 25 ; Suicide and Other Violence, 24 ; Circulatory Diseases, 21 ; Nephritis, 17 ; Influenza, 16 ; Digestive Diseases, 14 ; Congenital Diseases, 13 ; Other Respiratory Diseases, 9.

Two hundred and sixteen deaths occurred at the age of 65 or over, or 46 per cent. of the total deaths.

The age periods at deaths of those over 65 years were as follows :—

	65 yrs. under		70 and under		75 and under		80 and under		85 and under		90 and under		Over 95 yrs.	
	70 yrs.		75 yrs.		80 yrs.		85 yrs.		90 yrs.		95 yrs.			
Sex	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	22	15	27	31	23	21	18	24	12	14	5	3		1
Total	37		58		44		42		26		8		1	

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Thirty-two deaths were registered under 1 year of age, 24 males and 8 females. This gives an Infant Mortality Rate of 53.4 per 1,000 births, compared with 23 deaths or a Rate of 37.2 for the year 1936.

This compares favourably with the rest of England and Wales and the 148 "Smaller Towns," which is 58 and 55 per 1,000 births respectively.

The number and rates for the last 10 years are given hereunder :—

Year	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
No.	30	27	27	22	41	34	33	27	23	32
Rate	47.7	41.7	39	33.0	67.8	57.7	60.4	45.9	37.2	53.4

The chief certified causes of death were as follows :—

Premature Birth, 6 ; Pneumonia, 6 ; Diarrhoea, 4 ; Atelectasis, 3.

Of the 32 deaths, 14 were under 3 months of age. One infant death was registered as illegitimate.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, Puerperal Fever is no longer a notifiable infectious disease, but such cases are now notifiable as Puerperal Pyrexia.

One notification of Puerperal Pyrexia was received during the year from which the patient completely recovered.

Of the total deaths three were registered as from Maternal Causes which gives a Maternal Mortality rate of 4.78 per 1,000 live and still births.

The certificates of deaths gave the following causes :—

- (i) Chronic Brights Disease and Albuminuria of Pregnancy ;
- (ii) Postpartum Haemorrhage and Albuminuria of Pregnancy ;
- (iii) Influenze, Pneumonia following Childbirth (7 days after).

There were also two material deaths in registered Nursing Homes in the District, but were non-residents and therefore were not included by the Registrar General in the return of deaths.

Precautions were taken in each case by fumigation of premises and the removal of bedding, etc., for disinfection.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

One hundred and twenty-nine persons were certified as suffering from notifiable infectious diseases, of which number 67 were removed to hospitals for treatment and isolation.

The cases notified were Scarlet Fever, 57 ; Diphtheria 11 ; Pneumonia, 8 ; Erysipelas, 6 ; Puerperal Pyrexia, 1 ; Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 39 ; and Other Forms of Tuberculosis, 7.

Only two deaths of residents were registered from infectious diseases as apart from Tuberculosis, these were from Scarlet Fever. The deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis were 28, and from Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis 5.

The schedule of notifiable infectious diseases under the Act of 1899 includes Small-pox, Cholera, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, and Scarlet, Typhus, Enteric, Continued, Relapsing and Puerperal Fevers.

The following diseases have also been made compulsorily notifiable :—Plague (1900), Tuberculosis all forms (1913), Cerebro Spinal Fever and Acute Poliomyelitis (1912), Ophthalmia Neonatorum (1914), Malaria and Dysentery, Acute Primary Pneumonia and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia (1927).

Under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, Continued Fever and Puerperal Fever are no longer notifiable infectious diseases, but the latter disease is now included under the heading of Puerperal Pyrexia and notifiable as such.

The following cases of notifiable infectious diseases occurred during the past ten years :—

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Diphtheria	154	41	19	9	25
Small-pox	—	7	4	—	—
Scarlet Fever	70	67	108	51	52
Erysipelas	5	17	16	3	10
Enteric Fever	3		3		
Puerperal Fever		1		1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	1	1	1	
Cerebro Spinal Fever		1	1	1	
Poliomyelitis			1		
Encephalitis Lethargica	1			1	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2			
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	32	39	38	30	33
Tuberculosis Other Forms.....	18	15	15	10	5
Pneumonia	6	27	9	18	14
Dysentery	1				
Total	295	218	215	125	139

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Diphtheria	84	60	24	2	11
Scarlet Fever	88	114	68	32	57
Small-pox	1				
Erysipelas	8	12	7	8	6
Enteric Fever					
Puerperal Fever	3	3	6	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	1	2		1
Cerebro Spinal Fever					
Polio-myelitis	1	2			
Encephalitis Lethargica	1			2	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	1	1	5	
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	37	21	22	33	39
Tuberculosis Other Forms	5	14	4	8	7
Pneumonia	13	14	12	18	8
Total	249	242	146	109	129

SCARLET FEVER.

Fifty-seven persons were notified as suffering from this disease, 28 males and 29 females, an attack rate of 1.44 per 1,000 of the population.

The number of cases removed to the Gravesend Isolation Hospital was 47, of which two proved fatal. They were a boy aged 1½ and a girl aged 4 of the same family. Both the children were dangerously ill when admitted, having the disease in a very virulent form, and died, the former within 2 days and the latter within 5 days of their admission to the hospital.

Three children were admitted to the infectious Hospital with suspected scarlet fever but the diagnosis was not confirmed and are not, therefore, included in the above.

The age periods affected were as follows :—

	1 and under 5 yrs.	5 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 25 yrs.	25 and under 45 yrs.
Sex	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
	5 5	22 19	1	1 4
Total	10	41	1	5

DIPHTHERIA.

There were 11 persons notified as suffering from this disease during the year as compared with two for the previous year.

The majority of the cases were of mild type with little if any clinical signs of the disease.

Eight cases were removed to the Borough Isolation Hospital and recovered without any complications arising.

All those affected were of the School Age Group, namely, between 5 and 15 years of age.

There were two children admitted to the Hospital under suspicion but after negative results of three bacteriological examinations were obtained they were no longer detained in hospital.

The facilities offered by the Kent County Council for the bacteriological examination of swabs, etc., proves very beneficial in determining the disease in the early stages.

THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The present Staff at the Borough Isolation Hospital consists of a Matron, 2 Staff Nurses, 2 Assistant Nurses and 2 Probationer Nurses ; an Engineer (whose duties include attention to the furnaces, disinfection plant and assisting in the garden) and a Gardener.

Eighty-four persons were admitted to the Hospital for isolation and treatment :—Scarlet Fever, 47 ; Diphtheria, 8 ; Pneumonia, 5 ; Puerperal Pyrexia, 1 ; Cerebro Spinal Fever, 2 ; Erysipelas, 1 ; Septic Throat, 10 ; Observation cases, 9.

Four deaths occurred in the Hospital ; 2 Scarlet Fever, 1 Pneumonia, 1 Cerebro Spinal Fever.

The two Scarlet Fever patients were aged $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 4 years. Both children were dangerously ill when admitted and died, the former within 2 days and the latter within 5 days of admission.

Two patients were admitted from the Northfleet Urban District suffering with Cerebro Spinal Fever. Both cases were dangerously ill when admitted. One, a boy of 15, died on the second day after admission and the other, aged 12, after remaining in a critical condition for 5 days, made a remarkable recovery and was discharged cured, with no after effects, 26 days after admission to the Hospital.

A man, aged 32, was admitted suffering from Pneumonia and died 3 hours after admission. He was seen by the Medical Superintendent immediately on admission, but his condition was such that little could be done for him.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of Primary notifications of persons suffering from Tuberculosis during the year was 46, 39 Respiratory and 7 " Other Forms."

In addition to the above, 6 notifications of transfer were received of persons suffering from the disease having come to reside within the Borough. Ten persons were notified to other Districts upon leaving the Town.

The following table shows the sex and age periods of the cases notified :—

	5 to 15 yrs.		15 to 25 yrs.		25 to 45 yrs.		45 to 65 yrs.		Over 65 yrs.		Total at all ages.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Respiratory	3	2	3	5	7	9	6	2	2		
		5		8		16		8		2	39
" Other Forms "	1	2	1	2	1						
		3		3		1					7
Totals	8		11		17		8		2		46

The following gives the source from which notification was received :—

Tuberculosis Officer	.....	.....	17
General Practitioners	.....	.....	12
General Hospitals	.....	.....	9
Public Assistance M.O's		.....	6
Sanatoria	.....	.....	2

The total number of persons residing within the Borough as shown by the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year was :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary	82	52	134
" Other Forms "	22	22	44
	104	74	178

This shows an increase of 9 over the previous year when the number was 169.

Twenty-eight deaths were registered from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory system, and 5 " Other Forms " showing a mortality rate from All Forms of Tuberculosis of .83 per 1,000.

Gravesend Tuberculosis Dispensary.

I am indebted to Dr. Charles Roper, the Tuberculosis Officer in charge of the Gravesend Dispensary, for the following particulars concerning the treatment of patients during the year. It should be noted that the figures relate to a wider area and are not solely confined to the residents within the Borough of Gravesend.

New Cases seen at the Dispensary during 1937.

	Adults		Children	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Pulmonary ...	30	20	1	4
Non-Pulmonary ...	4	2	1	1
Negative ...	15	30	15	8

Contacts examined—not included in the above.

	Adults		Children	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Pulmonary ...	—	1	1	—
Non-Pulmonary ...	—	—	2	1
Negative ...	3	6	12	23

Total number attendances of patients at the Dispensary during the year ... 873

Number of patients who completed a course of Sanatorium treatment during the year ... 62

CANCER.

Deaths from Cancer numbered 63 for the year 1937, which compares favourably with 67 for the previous year. This shows a mortality rate of 1.59 per 1,000.

Again, as in previous years, the females exceeded the males,—55 per cent. against 44 per cent. respectively.

For the past 10 years the number of deaths and the corresponding rates are shown hereunder :—

No. of	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
cases	52	64	49	52	51	60	49	64	67	63
Rate	1.5	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.5

The following table gives the organs affected, the sex and age at death :—

<i>Organ Affected.</i>	<i>Males Ages at Death.</i>	<i>Females Ages at Death.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Digestive Organs	45, 57, 65, 66, 68, 73, 74, 77	58, 58, 66, 67, 71, 72, 74, 75, 79, 81, 87	19
Breast		50, 52, 56, 61, 64, 66, 70, 77	8
Generative Organs		46, 55, 56, 59, 60, 69, 77	7
Stomach	53, 62, 63	46, 56, 63, 78	7
Aesophagus	61, 74, 84	63, 72	5
Bladder	57, 69, 73, 75		4
Larynx	72, 77	62	3
Lung	47, 47, 55		3
Liver	49, 77		2
Jaw		56, 70	2
Kidney	72		1
Brain	47		1
Tongue	64		1
Total	Males 28	Females 35	63

In connection with the British Empire Cancer Campaign, a lecture was arranged at the Toc H. A Medical Practitioner was appointed to give the address and he reported that it was well attended and greatly appreciated. He was impressed with the intelligence of some of the questions asked and it seems evident, in view of the interest taken, that further lectures should be arranged.

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

The facilities of the County Laboratory are placed at the disposal of the General Practitioners, the Institutions and the Public Health Services for the examination of material sent for determining the presence of disease.

During the year extensive use has been made of these services which are entirely free of charge and the following table shows the results obtained from the specimens dispatched. :—

<i>Specimens for Disease Suspected.</i>	<i>By General Practitioners.</i>			<i>By Public Health Services.</i>		
	<i>Pos.</i>	<i>Neg.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Pos.</i>	<i>Neg.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Tuberculosis	24	134	158	—	4	4
Diphtheria	12	71	83	24	64	88
Ring Worm	—	1	1	8	4	12
Typhoid	—	1	1			
Septicaemia	—	22	22			
Total	36	229	265	32	72	104

VACCINATION.

I am indebted to Miss Hammond, the Vaccination Officer, for the following particulars as to the number of infants vaccinated in the Borough during the year 1937 under the Vaccination Act, 1867-1896.

The number of successful vaccinations was 405

The number of declarations of objection to vaccination
was 258

Certificates submitted for postponement 7

It is to be regretted that there is still a marked objection to this simple but very effective operation of protection against small-pox and it also is regrettable that the public are able to obtain so easily the signature of some person holding a public position to substantiate these declarations of objection.

Every year a considerable number of contacts with small-pox are reported, mostly connected with cases on ships from the East, for supervision until the expiry of the incubation period.

I would emphasise once again the great risk the residents of this Borough run in the association of persons connected with ships trading with foreign ports.

This should be an incentive to all parents to have their children protected against this terrible disease and not postpone vaccination until small-pox is in our midst.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

During the year there were 606 live births and 31 still births notified ; 26 births were not notified. The notification indicated that 379 were attended by Midwives, and 258 by Doctors ; 136 births were transferred “ out ” and 41 were transferred “ in.”

The Health Visitors in their report on the visitation of homes give the following figures relating to their respective districts :—

Gravesend (Nurse Cross).

Visits to infants under 1 year of age	.....	1022
Visits to infants over 1 year and under 5	.....	2484
Total visits to Expectant Mothers	.....	201
Number of persons having charge of Foster Children		4
Number of Foster Children on Register	.....	4
Number of visits to Foster Children	.....	18
Investigation of cases of Difficult Maternity	.....	10
Miscellaneous visits	.....	4
Investigations concerning Maternal Deaths	.....	2
Enquiries <i>re</i> Adoption Orders	.....	3

Milton (Nurse Bovington) (6 months).

Visits to infants under 1 year of age	.....	402
Visits to infants over 1 year and under 5	.....	1073
Total visits to Expectant Mothers	.....	91
Number of persons having charge of Foster Children		4
Number of Foster Children on Register	.....	4
Number of visits made to Foster Children	.....	23
Enquiries <i>re</i> Adoption Orders	.....	5
Miscellaneous visits	.....	33

Denton (Nurse Dixon (Part time school nurse).

Visits to infants under 1 year of age	.....	554
Visits to infants over 1 year and under 5	.....	1515
Visits to Expectant Mothers	.....	89
Number of Persons having charge of Foster Children		2
Number of Foster Children on Register	.....	3
Number of visits made to Foster Children	.....	12
Number of enquiries <i>re</i> Adoption Orders	.....	3
Miscellaneous visits	.....	10

Welfare Centres.

There are three Welfare Centres in the Borough serving (1) Denton and Chalk, (2) King's Farm Estate, and (3) Central Gravesend (Windmill Street). These Centres are open for the benefit of ante-natal and post-natal mothers and their infants up to 5 years of

age. They are open on the following afternoons :—Mondays, Thursdays and also on Fridays, at Windmill Street Centre, and at Whitehill Centre (King's Farm) on Tuesdays. The Denton Centre which is open on Wednesdays is held, temporarily, at the Gordon Mission.

The total attendances at all three Centres for the year 1937 are included in the figures given below :—

Total attendances of children under 1 year of age	3684
Total attendances of children between the age of 1 and 5 years	3731
Attendances of individual children under 1 year of age who attended for the first time	358
Attendances of children who attended for the first time between the age of 1 year and 5 years	140
Attendances of Post Natal Mothers	280

The following ailments were met with at the Welfare Centres during the year :—

Debility	64	Rashes	6
Feeding conditions	97	External Eye Disease	8
Bronchial Catarrh	48	Whooping Cough	6
Constipation	44	Colds	21
Circumcision	36	Naevi	2
Diarrhoea	22	Rickets	2
Dental Caries	14	Tongue Tie	3
Skin diseases	14	Umbilical Hernia	17
Cuts and sores	12	Miscellaneous	38
Otitis Media	6		

Complications of Maternity.

During the year 23 persons were admitted to the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital under the scheme for the treatment of Difficult Maternity. These are admitted in cases of emergency and, by agreement with the Hospital, the Town Council accepts the responsibility for payment.

The charge to the Council is £3 per week and where the financial circumstances of the family, taking into consideration the rent, number of children, the wages of the man, etc., justify it, a claim is made on the man for the recovery of part of the expense so incurred.

In many instances only the maternity benefit of two guineas is offered.

Distribution of Free Milk.

Three hundred and twenty-seven individual mothers or infants were approved, after investigation, and granted free milk under the provisions of the Maternity and Child Welfare Order of the Ministry of Health.

The Order, No. 1072, dated 1930, empowers the Council to grant free milk and medical necessities to expectant and nursing mothers and their infants up to 5 years of age.

In certain circumstances such as illness, allowances of milk may be made at the discretion of the Committee to infants up to 5 years although the income of the family exceeds the limit of the scale for the time being in operation.

Considerable demands have been made upon the Council under this scheme and the expenditure involved amounted to £840 during the year 1937. The quantities so distributed were as follows :—

Fresh milk	..... 2,769 pts.	Dried milk	..... 9,344 lbs.
Honicose Malt	202 lbs.	Virol	..... 168 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs.
Malt and Oil	..... 216 lbs.	Marmite	..... 20 lbs.

Maternity Fees.

Maternity fees were granted in 11 instances where men were not qualified, through unemployment, to obtain the National Health Insurance Benefit.

This provision is made under the Child Welfare scheme to safeguard the midwife, if her fee, owing to poverty, is not forthcoming.

Municipal Midwives.

With the advent of the Midwives Act, 1936, which came into operation on 1st October, 1937, a Municipal midwifery service was put into operation and there are now five Midwives in the Borough of Gravesend who are salaried officers of the Kent County Council and who are engaged by persons at recognised fees, which are collected by the County Council.

Two infants were provided with orthopaedic apparatus at the expense of the Child Welfare Scheme in conjunction with the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, and one child was sent to a convalescent home at Folkestone for a short period.

Ladies' Voluntary Committee.

The Members of this Committee continue to render the most valuable assistance to the mothers of the Town in administering the sales of dried milks and various medical preparations at cost price. This service is most ably carried out by the ladies who attend on the afternoons the Centres are open for this purpose and to whom great credit is due for their organisation.

The amounts of the foods, etc., sold at cost price, at the three Centres during the year amounted to a turnover of £1,006, and were as follows :—

Ostermilk	.....	740	Malt and oil	.....	788
Cow & Gate	.....	5,838	Robelein	.....	128
Lactogen	.....	143	Maltoline	.....	521
Viol	.....	1,882	Trufood	.....	551
Virolax	.....	163	Marmite	.....	486
Lactogol	.....	17	Humanised Trufood		1,070
Patent Groats	.....	287	Almata	.....	86
Ovaltine	.....	2,578	Brestol	.....	35

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION ACT, 1927.

No applications were made for registration during the year. There are four Nursing Homes registered in the Borough and two institutions which are exempt from the requirements of the Act as regards registration.

Periodical visits are made to these registered homes and they appear to be properly conducted.

CHILDREN ACT, 1908, PART I.

Eight persons were registered as Foster Parents to receive children for reward under the conditions of the above Act.

Nine children were maintained under supervision of the Council's officers and the total number of visits paid during the year was 53. In all cases the children were found to be properly cared for.

The appointed protection officers under this Act are the Medical Officer of Health and his Staff of Health Visitors.

HOUSING.

(1) Inspection of Dwelling-houses.

(1)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	.....	1323
	Number of inspections made for that purpose	.....	5046
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under the preceding heading) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	.....	371
	Number of inspections made for that purpose	.....	2756
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	.....	4
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	.....	900

(2) **Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit
in consequence of informal action by the Local
Authority or their officers 910

(3) **Action under Statutory Powers.**

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the
Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which
notices were served requiring repairs 9

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit
after the service of formal notices :—

(a) by owners 6

(b) by local authority in default of owners Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which
notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 25

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which such defects
were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) by owners 20

(b) by local authority in default of owners Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing
Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which
Demolition Orders were made Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance
of Demolition Orders Nil

(3) Demolished in anticipation of Demolition Orders 4

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act,
1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground
rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground
rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were
determined, the tenement or room having been
rendered fit Nil

(4) **Total Number of houses owned by the Local
Authority 1291**

(5) Number of new houses built during the year :—

(a)	by the Local Authority	Nil
(b)	by other bodies or persons	306

Housing Act, 1936, Part IV, Overcrowding :—

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	46
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	47
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	388
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	14
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	73
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases (persons displaced)	327

WATER SUPPLY.

Arrangements have been made for samples from the public water supply to be taken and submitted each month for bacteriological analysis.

The source of supply is obtained in the old portion of the Borough from the Gravesend and Milton Water Company, and in the added Areas (Denton and Chalk) from the Higham and Hundred of Hoo Water Company.

As in past years little comment can be made on the public water supply, apart from the unvarying high standard of purity and the abundant supply which is always available.

The purity of these waters, both from the Gravesend Company and the Higham & Hundred of Hoo Company, will be seen by reference to the Analyst's reports which will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Section of this Report.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There were four Common Lodging Houses in the Borough which are under the supervision of the Police.

During the year 22,802 lodgers have been accommodated, of whom 20,866 were males and 1,936 females.

434 males and 420 females were between the ages of 8 and 12 years, and 48 females were under 8 years of age.

Two of these lodging houses were closed during the year.

INQUESTS.

Thirty-three inquests were held during the year by the Borough Coroner, Evans Penman, Esq., and verdicts were returned as follows :—Accidental Death 25 ; Suicide, 6 ; Found Drowned, 1 ; Natural Causes, 1.

There were also 41 sudden deaths into which the Police instituted enquiries.

NEW OPEN AIR BATHING POOL, ORDNANCE ROAD.

A new Open Air Bathing Pool is now being constructed by the Council at Ordnance Road, near the Promenade, and will be open for the Summer Season, 1938.

The main pool is 150 ft. long by 75ft. wide, and has two shallow areas and a diving pit, the diving apparatus includes the following diving boards, 1 metre fixed, 1 metre spring, 3 metre fixed, 3 metre spring and 5 metre fixed and a chute.

There is accommodation for 800 bathers at any one time and further provision can be provided if necessary.

Wide surrounds and large areas provide for sunbathing, whilst a spectators' terrace surrounds the site.

On the first floor of the building a Cafe and Spectators' Gallery is provided, affording a splendid view of the whole of the site.

The Children's Paddling Pool, 50 ft. by 50 ft. with its own surround is separated from the main pool by a terrace.

Bathing by floodlight will be a feature for warm summer evenings and there are car parking facilities.

The 500,000 gallons of water in the pools will be filtered, aerated, sterilized and heated by the most up-to-date and efficient plant ensuring bathing with perfect safety and an even temperature with a complete change of water every six hours.

No decision has been made as to the use to which the Corporation's Swimming Bath on the Promenade will be put.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

The following Acts (among others) are in force within the Borough :—

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 :—

(Parts II, III, IV, V).

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

(Part II, III (34-38, 43-51).

(Part IV, 52-60, 62-66).

(Part V, VI, VII (79, 81, 85, 86).

(Part VIII, LX, X (92, 93, 95).

Public Health Acts, 1925.

(Parts II, III, IV, V).

Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899, to 1935.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

30 Aug.,	1893—Common Lodging Houses.
30 Aug.,	1893—Nuisances.
25 Sept.,	1893—Decent Conduct: Conveniences.
13 Oct.,	1893—Removal of Offensive Matters.
12 Jan.,	1926—Fish Frier.
14 April,	1926—Cesspools in connection with Buildings.
5 Sept.,	1930—Slaughter Houses.
10 Jan.,	1931—Deposit of Litter.
15 Sept.,	1932—Improvement Area No. 1.
15 Sept.,	1932—Houses Let in Lodgings.
4 Oct.,	1933—Improvement Area No. 2.
29 May,	1934— „ „ No. 3.
1 Oct.,	1934— „ „ No. 4.
1 Oct.,	1934— „ „ No. 5.
1 Oct.,	1934— „ „ No. 6.
1 Oct.,	1934—Houses Let in Lodgings.
1 Jan.,	1935—Improvement Area No. 7.
1 Jan.,	1935— „ „ No. 8.
1 Jan.,	1935— „ „ No. 9.

GRAVESEND V.D. CLINIC.

I am indebted to Hamish Nicol, Esq., F.R.C.S., the Surgeon in charge of the Gravesend Clinic, for an abridged report of the work carried out during the year under the administration of the Kent County Council.

New Patients—Gravesend.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Syphilis	9	1	10
Soft Sore	—	—	—
Gonorrhoea	25	12	37
Non-venereal	21	8	29
	55	21	76

Total No. of new patients from all areas 260

Average No. of Gravesend patients
under daily treatment or observa-
tion during 1937 76 34 110

Total attendances of Gravesend
patients 3,283
„ „ all areas served 5,658

Discharges (all districts served).

Discharged cured :—	Male.	Female.	Total.
Syphilis	11	5	16
Soft Sore	1	—	1
Gonorrhoea	52	27	79
Non-venereal	55	22	77

Defaulted before final test of cure.				Male	Female	Total
Syphilis	—	—	—
Gonorrhoea	—	3	3

Defaulted before completion of treatment.

Syphilis	.....	.....	.....	6	13	19
Gonorrhoea	.....	.....	.....	28	5	33

New Patients.

Married	.....	.....	.....	47	per cent.	
Single or Widowers	.....	.....	.....	53	„	„
Contracted from prostitutes	.....			67	„	„
“ amateurs ”	.....			13	„	„
consorts	.....			11	„	„
Deny sexual intercourse	.....			9	„	„
Contracted at Gravesend	.....			18	„	„
Rest of Kent	.....			18	„	„
Essex	.....	.....	.....	15	„	„
London	.....	.....	.....	3	„	„
Elsewhere in U.K.	.....			6	„	„
Abroad	.....	.....	.....	39	„	„
History of previous V.D. infection (excluding relapses)				30	„	„

Occupations :

Seamen	.....	.....	.....	50	„	„
Motor Drivers	.....	.....	.....	1.5	„	„
Labourers	.....	.....	.....	20	„	„
Others	.....	.....	.....	28.5	„	„

GRAVESEND AND NORTH KENT HOSPITAL.

I am grateful to Mr. C. E. Chapman for kindly sending me the following particulars as to the numbers treated in the various departments during the year.

It will be seen that the number of new patients was less than for the previous year, but a proportionate decrease is not shown in the number of attendances made.

			New Patients.		Subsequent Attendances	
			1936	1937	1936	1937
In-Patients	.....	.....	2280	2040	—	—
Gynaecological	.....	.....	95	74	164	181
Ante and Post Natal	.....	.....	237	223	1413	1350
Ear, Nose and Throat	.....	.....	460	444	545	492
CO ₂ Clinic	.....	.....	38	37	97	136
Orthopaedic Clinic	.....	.....	230	292	513	739
Medical Out-Patients	.....	.....	747	558	3579	3103
Casualties	.....	.....	5788	5557	20423	17966
Massage Clinic	.....	.....	453	452	14115	14684
Ophthalmic Clinic	.....	.....	572	617	1350	1277
Varicose Veins Clinic	.....	.....	15	17	49	37
X-Ray	.....	.....	2895	2690		336
Dental Clinic	.....	.....	1634	1262	—	—
Fractures	.....	.....	570	405	1016	1224
Totals			16014	14668	43264	41525

Major Operations 1,046. Minor Operations 783

Total Attendances for 1937 54,153

Report of the Sanitary Inspector's Department for the Year 1937

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND REVISITS.

Public Health Acts :

Dwelling-houses inspected	...	...	...	952
Re-inspections	...	...	...	1338

Housing Acts :

Dwelling-houses inspected...	...	...	...	371
Re-inspections	...	...	...	2385

Visits to Other Premises :

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	1370
Butchers' shops (for inspection of meat)	...	...	...	221
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	216
Cowsheds	...	...	...	58
Provision Shops	...	...	...	505
Greengrocers	...	...	...	631
Bakehouses	...	...	...	41
Dining Rooms	...	...	...	115
Fishmongers	...	...	...	305
Butchers' shops	...	...	...	291
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	35
Other Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	42
Offensive Trades—Fish frying	...	...	...	126
Gut Scraping	...	...	...	12
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	10
Shops Acts	...	...	...	154
Factories	...	...	...	58
Workshops	...	...	...	76
Workplaces	...	...	...	2
Outworkers	...	...	...	2
Stables	...	...	...	107
Piggeries	...	...	...	47
Urinals	...	...	...	302
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	972
Schools	...	...	...	96
Places of Entertainment	...	...	...	30
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	234
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	77
Housing Act, 1935—Measurement of houses	...	...	...	63
Enquiries <i>re</i> Overcrowding	247
Miscellaneous	608

Total visits of all kinds	12099
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NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH.

Under Public Health Acts (in respect of dwelling houses).

Written notices (informal)	...	...	...	397
Verbal notices (informal) ...	...	...	...	222
Statutory notices (served subsequent to informal notices)				25
Notices complied with	...	...	...	617

Under Housing Acts (in respect of dwelling houses).

Written notices (informal)	...	...	...	256
Verbal notices (informal) ...	...	...	...	25
Statutory notices (served subsequent to informal notices)				9
Notices complied with	...	...	...	321

Miscellaneous.

Written notices (informal)	...	...	...	4
Verbal notices (informal) ...	...	...	...	103
Notices complied with	...	...	...	107

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Animals in an unfit state	...	...	...	...	1
Ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	389
Cesspools—Filled in	...	...	...	...	9
New	...	...	...	...	2
Enlarged or repaired	...	...	...	...	0
Chimney stacks—repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	34
New pots provided	...	...	...	...	5
Coppers repaired or new constructed	...	...	...	...	34
Ceilings repaired or whitened	...	...	...	...	345
Damp-proof courses provided	...	...	...	...	10
Doors and door sills repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	28
Dampness of premises remedied	...	...	...	...	63
Drains—relaid or partly relaid	...	...	...	...	21
repaired	...	...	...	...	10
cleansed	...	...	...	...	10
External walls repaired	...	...	...	...	116
Floors—repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	83
Flushing cisterns—new provided	...	...	...	...	43
repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Food Cupboards—provided	...	...	...	...	3
ventilated	...	...	...	...	1
Gullies—additional provided	...	...	...	...	6
gratings provided	...	...	...	...	12
Gutterings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	50
Light and ventilation—additional provided	...	...	...	...	32
Offensive matter removed	...	...	...	...	5
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	73
Paintwork—external	...	...	...	...	86

Paving relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	72
Rain Water pipes repaired or new	...	...	...	...	45
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	106
Sinks—new provided	...	...	...	...	16
Staircases—repaired	...	...	...	...	44
handrails, etc., provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	112
Stoves provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	62
Urinals—cleansed	...	...	...	...	2
repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Ventilating and soil pipes—new provided	...	...	...	...	8
repaired	...	...	...	...	6
removed	...	...	...	...	6
Verminous rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	101
Walls repaired, papered or distempered	...	...	...	...	36
Wash houses—new constructed	...	...	...	...	4
repaired, etc.	...	...	...	...	19
Waste pipes provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	40
Water Closets—new constructed	...	...	...	...	9
repaired	...	...	...	...	66
new pans provided	...	...	...	...	40
pans cleansed or unstopped	...	...	...	...	4
walls and ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	...	28
Water supply over sinks	...	...	...	...	14
Water tanks removed	...	...	...	...	2
Window frames, etc., repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	150
Window sash cords renewed	...	...	...	...	300
Other matters not included in above	...	...	...	...	102

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

One hundred and thirty-six inspections of factories and workshops were made during the year. In 5 instances it was found necessary to give notice to remedy faults or defects.

The Bakehouses, 22 in number, were also inspected and in 4 instances faults or defects were found ; 1 was discontinued.

Description.	No. of Inspections.	No. of Defects.	Remedied.
Bakehouses	...	41	4
Factories	...	58	5
Workshops	...	76	
Workplaces	...	2	
	177	9	9

SHOPS ACTS, 1912-1934.

Shops have been kept under supervision for infringements of the above Acts.

During the year 154 visits were made to shops. Infringements were found in 25 instances and all were remedied.

The following is a summary of the faults or defects remedied :—

Provision of—Forms and Records	...	...	...	25
Heating facilities	...	...	...	1
Water closet accommodation	...	...	...	1
Seats for female assistants	...	...	...	1
Repairing and cleansing water closet accommodation	...	...	...	1

Shopkeepers were advised as to the appropriate forms to obtain and 51 forms were provided at the request of this Department.

The following Certificate was issued :—

Exemption from provisions of sanitary accommodation	...	1
---	-----	---

CESSPOOL AND PAIL SYSTEM.

Cesspool emptying is carried out by means of a Dennis cesspool emptying machine with a capacity of 1,000 gallons and the sewage is disposed of at the Sewage Disposal Works.

During the year 830 tons of sewage were removed from 99 cesspools as against 1,819 tons from 356 cesspools the previous year.

There are now approximately 30 pails in use in the Borough, the use of 4 having been discontinued during the year and water-closets substituted therefor. Seven pails are emptied twice weekly by the Health Department, the remainder being dealt with by the owners or occupiers.

HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

Five Shelvoke & Drewry freighters and two Eagle-Thornycroft vehicles are employed in the collection of house and trade refuse. In May, 1937, four new Shelvoke & Drewry freighters of 10 cubic yards capacity were purchased to replace the five original 7 cubic yard freighters purchased in 1929.

The refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping and is still being tipped at the Gravesend Co-operative Society's Sports Grounds in Old Road East. It is estimated that this tip will last for a further three years.

During the year 5,570 loads of refuse weighing approximately 11,530 tons (including 510 loads of trade refuse weighing approximately 892 tons) were collected and tipped.

The following table shows the comparison with previous years. The reduction in the number of loads is accounted for by reason of the larger capacity vehicles now in use :—

Year.		Loads.	Tons.
1931	...	4,824	9,922
1932	...	4,810	9,450
1933	...	4,810	9,450
1933	...	4,890	9,947
1934	...	5,141	9,826
1935	...	5,615	10,202
1936	...	6,171	11,017
1937	...	5,570	11,530

SALVAGE FROM REFUSE.

Waste Paper :

Waste paper and cardboard is collected by the Corporation from business premises and private houses and then pressed into bales ready for collection by the Thames Board Mills, Ltd., to whom the Corporation are under contract to supply this material. During the year an electric baling press was purchased at a cost of £145 and this has greatly facilitated the work of baling.

The total weight of paper, etc., collected and sold during the year was 440 tons 11 cwts. 3 qrs. 26 lbs., as against 388 tons 2 cwts. 2 qrs. 22 lbs. the previous year.

Bottles and jars, salvaged from house refuse at the tip, are sold to a glass bottle manufacturers' agent, who collects them periodically ; 253 gross were sold during the year as against 232 in the previous year.

DRAIN TESTING.

Fifty-six sets of drains in respect of 16 premises were tested during the year, of these 43 were found to be sound and in order and 13 or 23.2 per cent. were found to be defective.

In cases where drains were defective they were repaired or relaid, as necessary.

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES.

Two hundred and ten rooms were disinfected and 108 batches of bedding and clothing were removed to the Isolation Hospital and disinfected and returned or, in some cases, destroyed.

Thirty-nine library books found on infected premises were withdrawn, the libraries being compensated.

DISINFESTATION.

One hundred and one rooms were fumigated for eradication of vermin.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES AND SCHOOLS.

The public conveniences and sanitary arrangements of the schools under the control of the Education Committee have been cleansed and flushed daily by the Health Department during the past year.

The conveniences attached to licensed premises have been kept under supervision and 302 inspections were made. One urinal was repaired and 4 were cleansed at the request of this Department.

RATS ORDERS.

Forty-two rat infested premises were dealt with during the year. Inspections were made in each case and the occupiers advised as to the best procedure.

The total number of visits made was 234. The premises were cleared in 36 cases and 6 were still under observation at the end of the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

Six samples of water were taken during the year, four of which were submitted for chemical analyses and two for bacteriological examination.

Arrangements have now been made with the County Analyst for samples of water to be submitted monthly for bacteriological examination.

The reports received on samples submitted during 1937 were as follows :—

Chemical Analyses of Water.

Gravesend Water Company's Supply.

	(1)	(2)
Appearance	Clear	Clear
Smell	Normal	Normal
Chlorine in Chlorides ...	1.33	1.12
Phosphoric Acid in Phosphates	None	None
Nitrogen in Nitrates ...	0.47	0.42
Ammonia	Trace only	None
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	0.0014	0.0017
Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes	Trace only	Trace only
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours ...	0.004	0.006
Hardness before boiling (total)	19.5	19.8
Hardness after boiling (permanent)	2.8	2.8
Total solid matter	26.32	24.36
Microscopical examination of deposit	Slight and unimportant	Slight and unimportant
Metallic impregnation ...	None	None

Higham & Hundred of Hoo Company's Supply.

	(3)	(4)
Appearance ...	Clear	Clear
Smell ...	Normal	Normal
Chlorine in Chlorides ...	8.47	7.56
Phosphoric Acid in Phosphates	None	None
Nitrogen in Nitrates ...	0.64	0.65
Ammonia ...	None	None
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	0.0028	0.0028
Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes	Trace only	Trace only
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours ...	0.014	0.012
Hardness before boiling (total)	20.5	20.8
Hardness after boiling (permanent) ...	5.1	4.9
Total solid matter ...	41.02	38.36
Microscopical examination of deposit ...	Slight and unimportant	Slight and unimportant
Metallic impregnation ...	None	None

All the samples were satisfactory and indicated water organically pure and free from sewage percolation.

Bacteriological Examination of Water.

	No. organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at :		B. coli (Presumptive)
	37 C.	22 C.	
Gravesend Water			
Company's supply	5	10	Absent in 100 ccs.
Higham & Hundred of Hoo Company's supply ...	0	2	Absent in 100 ccs.
Remarks :	Good waters.		

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 4 cowkeepers on the register and 58 visits of inspection were made to the farms concerned. There are also 85 milkshops and dairies and 216 inspections of these were made.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

Fourteen samples of milk were obtained and submitted to the County Laboratories for bacteriological examination. These were all satisfactory with the exception of one sample which contained bacillus coli.

Seven samples of milk were also examined for tubercle bacilli and a positive result was recorded in one case. The infected animal was traced and slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925.

Sediment Tests :

Fifteen samples of milk were examined for cleanliness, and the results were, on the whole, satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

The following licences were issued during the year under the above order :—

“ Tuberculin Tested ” Milk :—

Bottling licences	...	...	...	...	2
Dealer's licence	...	...	...	...	1
Dealer's supplementary licence	...	...	...	...	1

“ Pasteurised ” Milk :

Pasteurisers' licences	...	...	...	...	2
Dealers' licences	...	...	...	...	3

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are five private slaughter houses in the Borough and the visits numbered 1,370. It was found necessary in one instance to call the attention of the occupier to the necessity for cleansing the premises, and the work was carried out.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, have been enforced. Notice of slaughter is required and the inspection of meat carried out as far as possible at the time of slaughter.

During the year the number of carcasses inspected was as follows :—

Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep.
430	131	1654	1858

In addition to visits to slaughter houses, 221 visits to butchers shops were also made for this purpose.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

The provisions of this Act relating to the humane slaughtering of animals have been complied with. The number of slaughtermen holding licences at the end of the year was 22. No additional licences were granted during the year.

CONDEMNED FOOD.

8 Bovine Carcasses and Offal	...	(Tuberculosis)
6 " " "	...	(Tuberculosis and Johnes Disease)
1 " " "	...	(Uraemia).
3 Forequarters of Beef	...	(Tuberculosis)

50 lbs. Beef	...	...	(Tuberculosis)
2 Sheep Carcasses and Offal	...	...	(Bruised)
I " " " "	...	...	(Fevered)
I " " " "	...	...	(Dropsical)
I Pig Carcase and Offal	...	...	(Tuberculosis)
I " " " "	...	...	(Fevered)
I " " " "	...	...	(Abscesses)
23 Bovine Heads	...	...	(20 Tuberculosis)
			(3 Actinomycosis)
24 " Tongues	...	...	(19 Tuberculosis)
			(5 Actinomycosis)
39 " Lungs	...	...	(Tuberculosis)
16 " Livers	...	...	(4 Tuberculosis)
			(5 Flukes)
			(1 Cavernous Angioma)
			(5 Abscesses)
			(1 Necrosis)
9 " Mesenteries	...	...	(Tuberculosis)
I " Udder	...	...	(Mammitis)
4 " Skirts	...	...	(3 Tuberculosis)
			(1 Abscess)
I " Spleen	...	...	(Tuberculosis)
2 " Kidneys	...	...	(Nephritis)
20 Sheep Livers	...	...	(10 Flukes)
			(2 Cirrhotic)
			(8 Parasitic)
25 Sheep Lungs	...	...	(24 Parasitic)
			(4 Congested)
21 Pigs' Heads	...	...	(Tuberculosis)
7 " Lungs	...	...	(6 Tuberculosis)
			(1 Pneumonia)
18 " Livers	...	...	(9 Cirrhotic)
			(5 Parasitic)
			(4 Tuberculosis)
2 " Spleens	...	...	(Tuberculosis)
52 " Plucks	...	...	(Unsound)
636 lbs. Beef	...	...	"
18 lbs. Lamb	...	...	"
29 lbs. Bovine Liver	...	...	"
6 lbs. Calves' Kidney	...	...	"
115 lbs. Lambs' Livers	...	...	"
30 lbs. Sheep Livers	...	...	"
2 Chicken	...	...	"
7 Rabbits	...	...	"
5 stones Dogfish	...	...	"
695 lbs. Herrings	...	...	"
70 lbs. Kippers	...	...	"
210 lbs. Haddock	...	...	"
7 lbs. Plaice	...	...	"
7 lbs. Roker	...	...	"
13 lbs. Halibut	...	...	"

APPROXIMATE WEIGHT.

		Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Beef and Organs	...	6	1	3	0
Mutton and Organs	...		4	1	12
Pork and Organs	...		7	1	8
Miscellaneous	...		9	3	10
Total		7	3	1	2

FOODS AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

111 samples were taken under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and submitted to the Public Analyst. Particulars of the samples and a summary of the result is shown in the following table :—

Samples.	Number of		Result of Analyses.	
	Formal.	Informal.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
Boiled Sweets	—	2	—	2
Butter	4	—	3	1
Candied Peel	—	2	2	—
Cheese	2	—	2	—
Chicken & Ham Roll	1	—	1	—
Cocoa	—	2	2	—
Coffee	—	2	2	—
Cream (Tinned)	—	2	2	—
Fish Paste	2	—	2	—
Gin	3	—	3	—
Lard	3	—	3	—
Lemonade Powder	—	2	2	—
Margarine	3	—	3	—
Milk	60	—	59	1
Mince Meat	—	2	2	—
Rum	3	—	3	—
Sausages, Beef	3	—	3	—
Sausages, Pork	2	—	1	1
Sausage, Luncheon	1	—	1	—
Sponge Cakes	—	2	2	—
Tea	—	2	2	—
Whisky	6	—	6	—
	93	18	106	5

Particulars of Adulterated Samples.

Two samples of boiled sweets contained 3.5 grains and 10.3 grains per ounce respectively of Steatite (Talc). The Town Clerk communicated with the firm concerned.

One butter sample contained just over the limit of 16% of water and a letter of caution was sent to the manufacturer.

One milk sample contained 2.98% of fat instead of 3%, and a letter of caution was sent to the vendor.

One sample of pork sausages contained 75 parts per million sulphur di-oxide. A letter of caution was sent to the vendor.

MERCHANDISE ACT, 1926.

Proceedings were taken against a butcher for removing the brand from fourteen legs of Argentine pork and also for failing to exhibit the requisite notice. The defendant was fined £7 and 10/- costs.

It was also necessary in some instances to warn shopkeepers for not exhibiting notices.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Bye-laws are in force in the Borough for regulating the trade of Fish Frying.

There are 20 premises registered as offensive trades, consisting of 19 fish frying establishments and 1 gut scraping factory.

The latter was established in January, 1935, and consent was given by the Council for a period of three years. The licence was renewed for a further 12 months in October, 1937.

126 Visits of inspection to fish frying establishments and 12 visits to the gut scraping factory were made.

PROSECUTIONS.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926.

Failing to exhibit notice and removing brands from 14 legs of Argentine Pork. Fined £7 and 10/- costs.

Table I. Vital Statistics of whole District during 1937 and previous Years.

Year.	Popula- tion estimated to middle of each year.	Births.			Total Deaths Regis- tered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un- corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of age		At all ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1000 nett Births.		
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1928	34126	632	628	18.3	398	11.6	62	48	30	47.7	384	11.2
1929	33780	651	647	18.8	463	13.6	68	46	27	41.7	441	13.0
1930	35000	694	692	19.7	384	10.9	53	47	27	39.0	375	10.7
1931	35490	669	661	18.6	407	11.6	42	28	22	33.0	393	11.2
1932	35800	612	604	16.8	410	11.4	34	24	41	67.8	376	10.5
1933	35180	598	589	16.7	418	11.8	76	56	34	57.7	398	11.3
1934	34790	559	546	15.6	397	11.4	96	63	33	60.4	364	10.4
1935	38130	647	588	15.4	468	12.2	84	56	27	45.9	382	10.0
1936	39340	714	617	15.6	439	11.18	65	66	23	37.2	440	11.1
1937	39460	694	599	15.1	568	14.3	102	80	32	53.4	466	11.5

Table II. Causes of, and ages at, Death during the year 1937.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the district.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District
	All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	Hospitals and Institutions
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Certified ...	466	32	10	6	6	31	68	122	179	266
All Causes						1		1		
Uncertified ...										
Typhoid Fever ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Influenza ...	16	2	—	1	1	—	2	2	8	4
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Tuberculosis Resp. ...	28	—	—	—	—	7	11	9	1	9
Other Tuberculosis ...	5	1	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	5
Syphilis ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
General Paralysis of the insane ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Cancer ...	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	31	15
Diabetes ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	40	—	—	—	—	—	2	10	28	19
Heart Disease ...	79	—	—	—	1	7	8	26	47	18

Table III.

Infant Mortality.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age, for the year 1937.

Cause of Death.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes	Certified ...	12		1	1	14	9	5	3	1	32
	Uncertified										
Small Pox ...											
Chicken Pox ...											
Measles ...											
Scarlet Fever ...											
Diphtheria and Croup ...											
Whooping Cough ...											
Diarrhoea ...							2	1			3
Enteritis ...									1		1
Tuberculous Meningitis ...								1			1
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...											
Other Tuberculous Diseases									1		1
Congenital Malformations											
Premature Birth ...		6				6					6
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...							2				2
Atelectasis ...		3				3					3
Injury at Birth ...											
Erysipelas ...											
Syphilis ...											
Rickets ...											
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)											
Convulsions ...		2				2					2
Gastritis ...											
Laryngitis ...											
Bronchitis ...											
Pneumonia (all forms) ...				1		1	2	2			6
Suffocation, overlying ...					1	1	1			1	2
Other causes ...		1				1	2	1	1		5
Totals ...		12		1	1	14	9	5	3	1	32
Nett Births in the Year		legitimate 570		Nett Deaths in the year under 1 year of age of		legitimate Infants 31		illegitimate Infants 1			
		illegitimate 20									

Table IV. Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1937. Showing the age periods and cases removed to Hospital.

Diseases.	Total at all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						Total Cases Removed to Hospital.
		Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and over
Diphtheria ...	11	—	—	11	—	—	—	8
Small Pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	57	—	10	41	1	5	—	40
Erysipelas ...	6	—	—	—	—	4	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Pulmonary ...	39	—	—	5	8	16	8	11
Tuberculosis Other Forms	7	—	—	3	3	1	—	3
Pneumonia ...	8	—	1	2	—	3	1	—
Totals ...	129	—	11	62	12	30	10	67

Table V.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1935.

England and Wales, London, 125 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	GRAVESEND	England and Wales.	125 and Great Towns including London.	148 (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Adminis- trative County.
	Rates per 1,000 Population				
BIRTHS :—					
Live	15.17	14.9	14.9	15.3	13.3
Still	0.70	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54
DEATH :—					
All Causes ...	11.55	12.4	12.5	11.9	12.3
Typhoid and Para- typhoid fevers ...	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	0. 0	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Scarlet fever ...	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough...	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06
Diphtheria ...	0.00	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05
Influenza ...	0.40	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38
Violence ...	0.60	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51
NOTIFICATIONS ...					
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	—
Scarlet fever ...	1.44	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09
Diphtheria ...	0.27	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93
Enteric fever ...	0.00	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas ...	0.15	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44
Pneumonia ...	0.20	1.36	1.58	0.20	1.18
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age	53	58	62	55	60
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ...	11.	5.8	7.9	3.2	12.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—					
Puerperal Sepsis ...	3.33	0.97	)	Not available	
Others	1.64	2.26			
Total	5.00	3.23			
	Rates per 1,000 Births (<i>i.e.</i> , Live and Still)				
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—					
Puerperal Sepsis ...	3.18	0.94	)	Not available	
Others	1.55	2.17			
Total	4.78	3.11			
NOTIFICATIONS :—					
Puerperal fever ...					{ 4.15 14.34
Puerperal pyrexia	1.59	13.93	17.59	11.25	

